With a cherry on top

This upside-down cake flips the fruit PAGE 11

A WONKY HISTORY

FROM ICE AGE TO 300, RICHARD CROUSE RECOUNTS THE WAYS HOLLYWOOD GETS THE PAST ALL WRONG PAGE 8

SASKATOON metro

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

News worth sharing.

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Taste buds take note: Taste of Saskatchewan is here

Runs through Sunday. Organizers say event has doubled in size since its beginnings

MORGAN MODJESKI
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Entering its 17th year, organizers of Taste of Saskatchewan (TOS) say the event has become a well-known destination over the summer, noting it's time for Saskatoon restaurants to showcase their cornerstone items and new products to the public.

The event runs from July 10 to 15 at Kiwanis Park. Festival manager Scott Ford said the diverse range of cuisine offers something for everybody.

"It showcases 30 great restaurants from Saskatoon and surrounding areas," said Ford.

"All of the restaurants are limited to serving three items, and they usually pick three of their house favourites or sometimes a new item that they're introducing."

The event has grown significantly since its beginnings when it started with 14 restaurants, and Ford said he feels the current number of 30 works well.

"We've kept it at 30 because it fits in nicely with the space and it gives the restaurants an opportunity to do real good business," said Ford.

Paula Nowakowski, co-owner of Wing World, who serves a deep-fried Mars bar at the TOS, said the event is something they look forward to.

"We prepare for it all year long — it's a great event in Saskatoon, it's a great way to show all the great restaurants in town and show some new products," said Nowakowski.

A decadent delight

"We started deep-frying a lot of things — deep-fried eggs and stuff like that — but some things turn out better than others and the Mars bar was a great hit."

Paula Nowakowski, co-owner of Wing World, on the origin of the dish

Co-owner of Wing World Paula Nowakowski serves a deep-fried Mars Bar to a happy patron at Taste of Saskatchewan on Tuesday. MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

Who will lead RIM next?

Shareholders, who stuck with the BlackBerry maker through the worst stretch in its history, call for leadership upheaval PAGE 6

Armed with the right stuff

Toronto Blue Jays pitching prospect Marcus Stroman is set to make his single-A debut today, amid high hopes from the parent club PAGE 12

1

NEWS

On the web

Share It Maybe

Only Cookie Monster, Sesame Street's most infamous sugar addict, could make Carly Rae Jepsen's pop hit Call Me Maybe even sweeter. Go to metronews.ca to watch the puppet parody.

NDP on the attack

The New Democrats have hit back at the Tories with a new attack ad that features a perspiring and shaky Stephen Harper discussing his economic strategy for the future. Go to metronews.ca to see the video.

Mobile news

Police had a dirty job ahead of them after a U.S. woman allegedly stole and swallowed a $4,000 diamond ring. Scan the code to find out how cops assigned to the stinky stakeout got the pricey jewelry back.

Saskatchewan Roughriders head coach Corey Chamblin after the Riders' first practice since their 17-1 victory over the Edmonton Eskimos on Sunday. JEFF MACKEY/METRO

Riders looking to tame Lions

Football rivalry. Intensity will go up a lot when team takes on B.C. at Saturday's game, quarterback Darian Durant says

JEFF MACKEY
jeff.mackey@metronews.ca

On a humid Tuesday at Mosaic Field the Riders began preparations for their Saturday matchup against the B.C. Lions.

The Grey Cup-defending Lions will be the Riders' most challenging test to date in their 2-0 season.

Saturday's game is made all the more interesting by the rivalry the two teams have developed.

"I told (the players) this is like the Heat versus the Celtics; this is like the Red Sox versus the Yankees, and New Orleans versus Green Bay," said Riders Head Coach Corey Chamblin.

"The thing we try to do as veterans is just tell the rookies that the intensity when playing B.C is going to go up a lot," said Riders quarterback Darian Durant.

"They haven't lost yet and they are going to come in riding high, so we have to match their intensity."

On the injured list

Will LaBatte be fit to play?

A question mark hangs over the head of guard Brendon LaBatte after his injury in Sunday's 17-1 win against the Edmonton Eskimos.

"It is just a shoulder injury at this point," said Chamblin. "We are still evaluating, and there's still a chance that he might play."

Chamblin has faith that, if LaBatte can't play, guard Patrick Neufeld is ready to fill his spot. JEFF MACKEY/METRO

Follow Jeff Mackey on Twitter @MetroJeffMackey

The river is tempting to dive into in this hot weather, but police are cautioning it's against municipal bylaws to swim at the Spadina Sandbar. MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

Spadina Sandbar. Police cautioning public about swimming dangers

Police are reminding the public that swimming at the Spadina Sandbar is against municipal bylaws.

"If people are on the sandbar, they should not be swimming," said Alyson Edwards, director of public affairs with the Saskatoon Police Service. "We have had people swept into the current in the past. It's not uncommon."

Edwards says enforcement will be on an individual basis, but noted the service will monitor the area during the summer. MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

Current worries

"We have had people swept into the current in the past. It's not uncommon."

Alyson Edwards, director of public affairs at the Saskatoon Police Service

Animals in heat

Don't leave pets in cars: SPCA

The Saskatoon SPCA is reminding pet owners not to leave their furry friends in vehicles during the summer months.

A notice on the organization's website explains that temperatures in a parked car can rise rapidly, and noted even a short amount of time in a parked car could harm a pet. They also remind pet owners that rolling down a car window does not reduce the risk posed to animals.

The SPCA have a conversion scale with the notice that states temperatures of 38 C in a parked car would rise to 60 C in just 15 minutes. METRO

Let there be light

Province expands electric services at three parks

The province has given 400 campsites in three provincial parks an extra charge as the provincial government is investing $1.6 million to further expand electric services.

"Government realizes that many people visiting our parks desire the convenience of electrified campsites, which is why we have added almost 1,100 electric campsites over the last four years," said Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Kevin Doherty in a release. "These upgrades ... will help attract even more visitors to our parks, which helps grow our economy."

Services will be expanded at Rowan's Ravine Provincial Park, Duck Mountain Provincial Park and Moose Mountain Provincial Park and should be ready for the 2013 parks season. METRO

Water-line rupture

Saskatchewan town has no water

A town in south-central Saskatchewan has gone from a drinking-water advisory to having no water at all.

Warnings went out to residents that a boil-water advisory would be in effect Monday afternoon for Mossbank, about 145 kilometres southwest of Regina. That's because crews planned to make some repairs to the town's pumphouse, but then a main water line ruptured.

Town administrator Cynthia Kimball says it's not known how long the town will be without water. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Replica gun

Hostage-taker had fake firearm

An official says a man who took hostages at a school complex south of Paris used a "fake firearm."

All hostages were released unharmed Tuesday and a suspect detained.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Convention tragedy

Twilight-saga fan killed by car

A 53-year-old woman was hit by a car at the scene of a Twilight-saga panel talk in San Diego. She died later.

The victim identified by witnesses as "Gisella G." was apparently attempting to keep a spot in the lineup for Thursday's Comic-Con panel featuring the cast and filmmakers of The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn.

Reports said she had been in the lineup with friends since Sunday.

Police said she tried to run across Harbor Drive against the light Tuesday morning and stopped when she saw a Subaru Outback heading toward her, tripping into the vehicle.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Quebec drama

Fire deaths spark murder fears

Three bodies found inside a burning garage in a community north of Montreal have police fearing a murder-suicide.

Police say autopsies are needed to identify the remains and determine the cause of death.

A family of three lived at the home in Warwick — a 47-year-old man, his 13-year-old son and 11-year-old daughter. He had full custody of the children.

In the hours leading up to the blaze, the owner of the home published a lengthy diatribe on his Facebook page denouncing a court decision allowing his ex-wife to have partial custody of the children.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian's tribute

Asteroid named for gay pioneer

Canadian astronomer Gary Billings, who discovered several asteroids, has named one after U.S. gay-rights pioneer Frank Kameny, who died last year.

Kameny was fired from his job for being gay.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Warlord jailed: Next his partner?

Lubanga gets 14 years. He and renegade Bosco Ntaganda sent child soldiers to kill and be killed

The International Criminal Court on Tuesday sentenced a Congolese warlord to 14 years in jail for using child soldiers.

But Thomas Lubanga's partner in crime has yet to be brought to justice.

Lubanga was found guilty in March of recruiting, kidnapping and abusing children — sending them to kill and be killed during tribal fighting.

But Lubanga, who cried when he was put on a plane from Congo to The Hague in 2006, is a small player among Congo's many belligerents.

His case has brought increasing pressure for the arrest of his much more infamous partner, renegade Congolese army Gen. Bosco Ntaganda, nicknamed "The Terminator." The ICC indicted both men for war crimes involving child soldiers.

But a 2009 peace deal saw Ntaganda wearing the stripes of a general as he integrated his fighters into the Congolese army. Sensing the end of the road this year, the veteran warlord took off and now is accused of orchestrating a new rebellion in April.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Grim Reaper cuts to the chase: Science policies in peril

A protester wearing a Grim Reaper costume is the focus of a crowd's attention on Parliament Hill on Tuesday during a rally to protest the federal government's cuts to science policies. Protesters cite cuts to research programs in Environment Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the National Research Council of Canada, Statistics Canada and elsewhere. Dr. Scott Findlay, associate professor and former director of the University of Ottawa's Institute of Environment, says there is a "systematic campaign to reduce the flow of scientific evidence to Canadians."

FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Agony. Giant alligator bites off teen's right arm

A three-metre-long alligator bit off the right arm of a teenager swimming in a Florida river.

Kaleb Langdale, 17, survived the encounter Monday near Moore Haven.

Wildlife officers caught and killed the alligator and retrieved the arm, but doctors were unable to reattach it.

Langdale was recovering in a Fort Myers hospital. Friends said he was in good spirits. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Syria fallout. Jordan opens camp for flood of refugees

Jordan has opened a new camp to house a flood of refugees from Syria's bloodshed.

Information Minister Sameeh Maaytah said the new camp in the border town of Ramtha had to be set up because Syrian refugees could no longer be absorbed into border communities.

"We had to move quickly to make extra room for the refugees, whose numbers swelled in recent days," the minister said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

God particle. India's 'forgotten hero' snubbed?

Many in India are smarting over a God-particle snub.

Media have given lots of credit to British physicist Peter Higgs for uncovering what is said to be the elusive subatomic Higgs boson.

But little was said about one of India's greatest scientists.

Satyendranath Bose is the Indian after whom the boson is named.

"He is a forgotten hero," the Indian government said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sting. Porn star part of plot to catch Luka Magnotta

Twin Playboy bunnies and an animal-rights group tried to enlist one of the world's biggest porn stars last year to help catch Luka Rocco Magnotta.

Ron Jeremy said he was asked to lure Magnotta, a small-time Canadian porn actor, to L.A. with a phoney job offer to appear in an X-rated flick.

The ploy was concocted more than a year before Magnotta became a murder suspect in the gruesome death of Montreal student Jun Lin.

Instead of meeting a legend who's cavorted for the camera in more than 2,000 adult films, Magnotta was to be apprehended by a hard-nosed group of animal-rights activists.

Jeremy, however, got cold feet and the sting operation never moved ahead.

At the time, animal-rights advocates had alleged that Magnotta killed kittens and posted videos of the deeds on the Internet — accusations he has publicly denied.

Jeremy, an active animal-rights campaigner, wanted to help out, but was uncomfortable with the whole idea of being the bait.

"That's a little bit out of my league, don't you think?" Jeremy said in a phone interview.

Ron Jeremy GETTY IMAGES

"It's like an episode from some TV show. The (guy) comes to the set with lube in one hand and his schmeckle in the other, thinking he has a job, and the cops tackle him to the ground.

"That's good for the movies. That doesn't work in real life."

The idea for the trap was hatched by Rescue Ink, a group of rough-and-tumble activists based in N.Y. Its membership includes cops, military personnel and tattooed "street guys." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Too-smart phones? May know where you're going

Researchers have developed an algorithm that can predict where you will be in the future using data gathered from your friends' smartphones.

In the study of 200 people, the algorithm was able to predict the location of some users 24 hours later within 100 metres, some as close as 20 metres. Mirco Musolesi, lead researcher and computer-science lecturer at the University of Birmingham, said the algorithm is exploiting the synchronized rhythm of the city.

"I know this kind of thing looks kind of like Big Brother" said Musolesi.

"There is a problem for privacy, it is a big problem for these kind of services in general."

Still, if users' phone information could be protected, the algorithm has a potential future in targeted advertising, said Musolesi.

The algorithm predicts someone's movements by comparing their data with people in their social group. For example, if Bob usually goes to the gym on Tuesday, but instead does an errand, the algorithm will look to his friends, Jack and Joe. If Jack and Joe are doing their normal routine, the algorithm will, probably correctly, predict Bob will continue on to his normal routine, following his errand.

"The mutual information between these two patterns is very high," said Musolesi. "The movement of friends is highly co-ordinated, and synchronized." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Molestation charges

School district sued for silence

A former Los Angeles elementary-school teacher molested 14 students and officials did nothing to protect them, according to a lawsuit filed Tuesday against the second-largest U.S. school district. The negligence and liability suit is the third to stem from charges that Mark Berndt abused children as young as seven at Miramonte Elementary School. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

No-fly list

American cleared to return home

A U.S. citizen of Somali descent who was stranded in Bahrain for two weeks after being told his name appears on the U.S. government's no-fly list has returned to San Diego. The Council on American-Islamic Relations said that 20-year-old Ali Ahmed arrived Monday after being given a pass by the U.S. Embassy in Bahrain to return home. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Inmates pedal stationary bikes to charge car batteries at a prison in Santa Rita do Sapucai, Brazil. The innovative program allows inmates to shave days off their sentence. FELIPE DANA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Prisoners earn days off by biking

Brazil. Program has inmates pedalling to produce electricity for city promenade

Brazilian inmate Ronaldo da Silva hops on a bicycle and pedals furiously, clocking up several kilometres before slowing down and jumping off.

Silva hasn't gotten far, in fact not an inch. He's still inside the medium-security prison where he's serving a five-and-a-half-year sentence.

But he did move a bit closer to freedom. Silva is part of an innovative program that allows inmates at a prison in Brazil's southeastern Minas Gerais state to reduce their sentences in exchange for generating power to help illuminate the town.

By pedalling the prison's stationary bikes, the inmates charge a battery that's used to power 10 street lamps along the town's riverside promenade. For every three eight-hour days they spend on the bikes, Silva and the voluntary program's other participants get one day shaved off their sentences.

It is one of several new projects being implemented across Brazil, including literacy and book-reading programs, all aimed at thinning out notoriously overcrowded prisons and cutting down on recidivism by helping restore inmates' sense of self-worth. Lambasted by critics as too soft on criminals, such initiatives are seen by their defenders as effective ways of breaking the cycle of violence that reigns in the country's penitentiaries.

"We used to spend all day locked up in our cells, only seeing the sun for two hours a day," said 38-year-old Silva, whose missing front teeth speak to a life of hardships and privation. "Now we're out in the fresh air, generating electricity for the town and at the same time we're winning our freedom." Silva has already pedalled 20 days from his sentence.

The two-month-old program is the brainchild of the town's judge, Jose Henrique Mallmann, who said he got the idea from a story he read on the Internet about gyms in the U.S. where electricity is generated by the exercise bikes. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Win-win

"People who normally are on the margins of society are contributing to the community."

Gilson Rafael Silva, director of the prison exploring one way to manage crowded prisons

Thousands of turtle eggs were crushed on a beach in Trinidad & Tobago. MARC DE VERTEUIL/PAPA BOIS CONSERVATION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Turtle eggs crushed

A conservation group in Trinidad & Tobago is calling for an investigation into how government work crews crushed leatherback turtle eggs and hatchlings on a prime nesting beach. The endangered species' eggs and hatchlings were crushed by heavy machinery as workers redirected a shifting river over the weekend.

A conservation group says the government allowed the crew to operate "without any qualified supervision" on the ecologically sensitive Grand Riviere beach where the massive turtles nest. The group said it is "important to investigate how this was allowed to happen and to find a solution so this won't reoccur in the future."

Conservationists say they saw thousands of crushed leatherback eggs. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Aerospace. Bombardier lands $764M contract

Bombardier Aerospace says Latvia-based Air Baltic Corp. has signed a letter of intent to acquire 10 CS300 aircraft and take purchase rights on a further 10 of the passenger jets.

Based on the list price of the CS300, the contract is worth approximately $764 million US and could increase to $1.57 billion US should the 10 purchase rights be converted to firm orders.

Bombardier Aerospace, a subsidiary of Bombardier Inc., also has a conditional order for five CS100 and 10 CS300 jetliners placed by an unidentified customer earlier this week at the air show.

"The CSeries aircraft program continues to reach new milestones, expanding into new markets with unique applications," said Mike Arcamone, the president of Bombardier Commercial Aircraft.

Air Baltic serves 60 destinations with direct flights from its home base in Riga, Latvia.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 97.79¢ US (-0.32¢)

TSX 11,512.22 (-122.45)

OIL $83.91 US (-$2.08)

GOLD $1,579.80 US (-$9.30)

Natural gas: $2.737 US (-14¢)
Dow Jones: 12,653.12 (-83.17)

RIM executives clash with shareholders over leadership

BlackBerry-maker. Chairwoman says she is confident re-elected board will move company forward

Chair Barbara Stymiest and Thorsten Heins, President and CEO of Research in Motion (RIM), talk at the company's annual general meeting in Waterloo, Ont., on Tuesday. DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Shareholders of Research In Motion expressed their frustration Tuesday with the company's delayed product launch and eroding market share, with some calling for a major upheaval in its leadership.

RIM's annual meeting served as the first time since last summer that most of the company's investors have had an opportunity to speak directly to RIM's executive team, including new chief executive Thorsten Heins.

One shareholder took to the microphone to offer his best wishes for Heins before turning his attention to the board members who have helped guide the company since its heyday as the dominant smartphone.

"They've let this problem that RIM faces ... get out of hand so badly before they did something about it," he said. "I don't think, personally, that any of the old directors of the company should sit here today."

The crowd of about 300 people broke into applause after the comments.

However, despite the vocal criticism, shareholders still re-elected all of the board nominees, though John Richardson had support withheld by 30.2 per cent of the votes.

Investors in the company have been looking for any hints of a timeline for the BlackBerry 10 launch, which was pushed from later this year into the first three months of 2013, missing the key back-to-school and holiday shopping seasons.

Barbara Stymiest, the company's new chairwoman, defended RIM's leadership.

"Part of the dynamics in managing any board is managing smooth transitions, and we will continue to do that going forward," she said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Real estate. Market at a tipping point, firm warns

Canadian home prices generally rose in the second quarter and the pace of home-building increased in June, but industry observers say the real estate market is at a "tipping point" and could soon lose steam.

Royal LePage, one of the country's largest real-estate sales organization, said Tuesday that prices for all types of housing were mostly higher in the second quarter compared to both the first quarter of 2012 and the second quarter of 2011.

Quoted

"Confidence in Canada's real estate market is sound, but home prices cannot grow faster than salaries and the underlying economy indefinitely."

Phil Soper, the president and chief executive of Royal LePage Real Estate

And prices will likely rise further in some areas, such as Toronto and Winnipeg, the real estate firm added.

But the report suggests some areas are now likely too expensive for buyers at the current levels.

And some of the local markets it tracks showed declines in the second quarter compared with a year ago. Some types of homes in some cities showed lower local average selling prices, such as those in Victoria, B.C., Moncton, N.B., and Saint John, N.B.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Economy. Weak recovery creating a lost generation

The weak global recovery is turning unemployment into a long-term structural problem with the potential to scar youth and some workers the rest of their lives, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development warns.

In a new report on employment in the post-recession years, the Paris-based economic think-tank calls on policy-makers in large parts of Europe and in the U.S. to take "urgent action" to prevent a cyclical jobless problem from becoming permanent.

Secretary-General Angel Gurria singles out youth unemployment at 16.2 per cent in the 34-country area covered by the OECD, and long-term joblessness — workers that have been without a job for periods of one year and longer and two years and longer.

Quoted

"We need to avoid the risk of a lost generation by all means."

Secretary-General Angel Gurria

Canada gets mostly a free pass in the report. The OECD notes unemployment sits at 7.2 per cent in Canada, as opposed to 7.9 per cent for the OECD average, and is projected to decline to 6.4 per cent by late 2013. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Apple

iPads to start selling in China after settlement

Apple will start selling the iPad in China on July 20 after paying $60 million US to settle a dispute over the ownership of the tablet's name.

Apple said it bought the global rights to the iPad name from Shenzhen Proview Technology in 2009, but Chinese authorities said the rights in China were never transferred.

A Chinese court ruled in December that Proview still owned the name in China and the company asked Chinese authorities to seize iPads.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Privacy probe

Google poised to pay record fine

Google has agreed to pay a $22.5-million US fine to settle allegations that it broke a privacy promise by secretly tracking the online activities of millions of people who use Apple's Safari web browser.

That's according to a person familiar with Google Inc.'s negotiations to settle a case brought by the Federal Trade Commission.

The person who spoke to The Associated Press Tuesday asked not to be identified because the agreement still needs to be approved by the FTC.

The Wall Street Journal first reported on the pending settlement.

If approved, the $22.5-million fine would be the largest penalty ever imposed by the FTC.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Media

Postmedia reports $12.1-million third-quarter loss

Postmedia Network Canada Corp. said Tuesday it lost $12.1 million in its latest quarter compared with a loss of $2.7 million a year ago, as the newspaper publisher worked to cut costs and transform itself.

The loss for the three months ended May 31 amounted to 30 cents per share, compared with a loss of seven cents per share a year ago.

Revenue sank about seven per cent to $212 million for the period ended May 31, from $227.6 million last year, as advertising revenue fell 10 per cent or about $14.5 million. THE CANADIAN PRESS

TOUGH TO DENY GLOBAL WARMING WITH RECORD HEAT

JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca/justsaying

The evidence is mounting.

The past six months have been the hottest in U.S. history. Going back further, the last 12 months have been the hottest in the U.S. since they began keeping weather records and all the meteorologists had beards.

If that's not "global warming," I don't know what is. But, of course, if you're floating along De Nial and you encounter evidence that might capsize your boat, you just toss it overboard.

Science says ...

Frustrated by the intransigence of climate-change deniers, scientists are standing in line to point at the latest results and say 'I told you so.'

There's a great new book by Michael Shermer, the editor of the Skeptic magazine, called The Believing Brain, which argues we have a tendency to form our beliefs first and then go out looking for the evidence to support them, rather than the other way around. How else can you explain the fact that more people believe in angels (72 per cent) than Darwin's Theory of Evolution (45 per cent), even though there is plenty of evidence for evolution (e.g., the entire fossil record) and zero evidence for angels (It's a Wonderful Life doesn't count).

Of course there are exceptions. Like Vancouver, where I live. Vancouver appears to be the sole exception to global warming on the entire continent. While everyone else is sweltering through the hottest summer on record, the poor downtrodden, sodden masses of Vancouver have just been through the fourth-coldest June on record. It's been the Vancouver version of winter (10 degrees, raining) since last October.

From where we sit (shivering, cowering), global warming can only be seen as a cruel hoax. It may have reached an all-time record high of 113 F (45 C) in Johnston, S.C., recently, but it only reached or exceeded 20 C five times in Vancouver throughout all of May and June. I've got moss growing on the north side of my house. My feet haven't been warm since 1989, when I moved to the "Wet Coast."

Global warming is a little quirky in spots.

That doesn't mean it doesn't exist. Angered and frustrated by the intransigence of climate-change deniers, scientists are standing in line to point at the latest results and say "I told you so." That's except for those scientists whose funding has been cut by the Harper government. They're standing in that other line, the unemployment line.

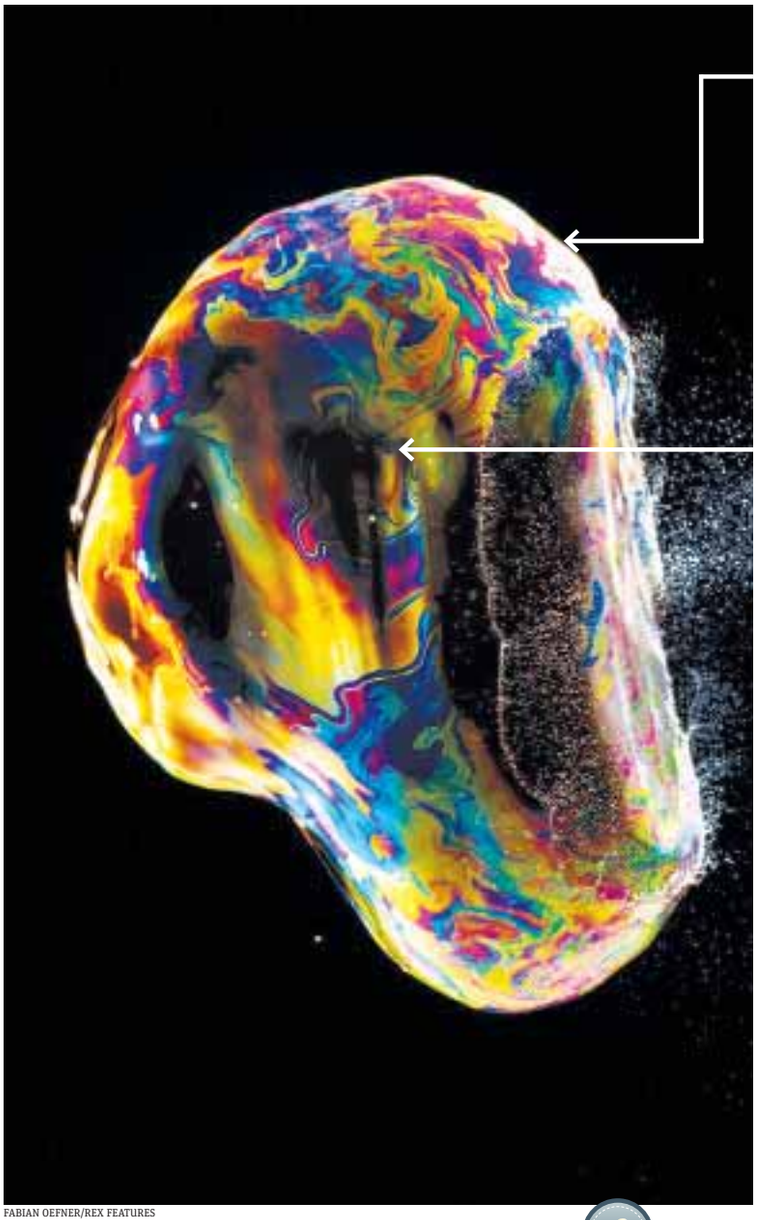
This weather is crazy, just like Jeff Grayson, who somersaults from a rope swing in Cockeysville, Md., in this July 2 photo.
WIN MCNAMEE/GETTY IMAGES

I'm guessing all this hot air will remain an inconvenient truth, especially for the government of Canada, which is among the most heavily invested in denial, thanks to the inconvenient truth that Alberta's oilsands — which mean billions to the nation's economy — are the poster petroleums of climate change.

Still, when Calgary, Stephen Harper's own Greatest City on Earth, and principal beneficiary of the oilsands, is in the middle of a nasty heat wave, you have to wonder if he and his oil-baron buddies are getting a little hot under the collar.

If they're looking for relief, we in Vancouver will gladly take a couple of degrees.

Sorry to burst your bubble



FABIAN OEFNER/REX FEATURES

Offbeat photography

Artwork goes pop

This surreal amorphous shape looks like something otherworldly, but in truth it's an ordinary soap bubble, made to look spectacular thanks to some ingenious high-speed photography.

Swiss photographer Fabian Oefner, 28, made it his mission to capture the short-lived beauty of bubbles as they burst. METRO

Oefner on his art

- **The first challenge.** "A soap bubble is made of a thin film of water, on which soap molecules gather on both sides. The vibrant colours that bubbles are famous for are created by the reflected light hitting the surface of the bubble — the bubble itself has no colour at all. To make these reflection effects ... I had to place lights around the bubbles from all different sides."

Other uses of bubbles

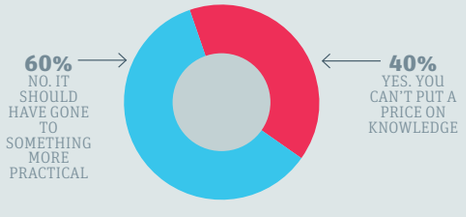
Bubbles used for thinnest TV screen

Earlier this month, an international research team discovered a way to use a soap-bubble screen as the world's thinnest TV display. Japanese and U.S. scientists used ultrasonic sound to change the properties of a bubble's membrane. The technology can be used to display 3D images using a series of bubble screens put together. METRO

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Was the discovery of the 'God particle' worth $10 billion?



Twitter

@turkloeppky: Another hot one in #yxe today. Ball tonight and a day off tomorrow finally. #TasteofSask here I come!

@Jennifer_Lester: Summer in the #yxe means its #TasteOfSask time! Need to see if anyone has menu items that are okay for the #17daydiet

@well_acquainted: Taste of sask is on right now. Score. #TasteOfSask

@thefuzzymethod: awesome music day! #stars and #metric playing together? yes please!

@clan_Askani: My toddler found her #Roughriders hat and is wearing it backwards while she colours.

@_ClaireRichards: So loved the @katyperry movie! She is a very cool girl! And she is right! Baby you're a Firework!! Don't ever let anyone tell you otherwise!

metro

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2
SCENE

Scene in brief

Run-DMC to perform for first time in a decade

They haven't performed together in more than a decade, but the surviving members of Run-DMC are set to reunite this fall at the Fun Fun Fun Fest in Austin. Joseph Simmons, now known as Rev. Run, and Darryl "DMC" McDaniels retired the group after their DJ, Jam Master Jay, was killed in 2002. But it was announced Tuesday that the band will be among the performers for the Nov. 2-4 event. Festival organizers say they plan to donate some of the proceeds to the JMJ Foundation for Music, which works to give youth access to the arts. The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame group is best known for hits like Walk This Way, It's Like That and My Adidas.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

Crooner Michael Bublé joins Blake Shelton's The Voice team, advising singing contestants.

Ice Age: Continental Drift continues a Hollywood tradition of bending history. HANDOUT

Hollywood history earns failing grade

Top 10. Here are just a few examples of movies that rewrite the history books to suit their narratives

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

"We fought dinosaurs in the ice age," Sid the Sloth says in this weekend's Ice Age: Continental Drift. "It didn't make sense, but it was fun."

It doesn't make sense because dinosaurs were already extinct by the time Manny, Sid and Diego entered the ice age, but the popular kids' movies aren't trying to teach, they're simply continuing a long-held Hollywood tradition of bending history to suit their stories.

Here are 10 other bits of Hollywood history that earn a failing grade.

1 The movie When Dinosaurs Ruled the Earth drew on Phoenician, Latin and Sanskrit to create a fake caveman language. Here's a quick Berlitz primer in cavespeak: For "come back" say "neecha," "akita" is "look" and "neecro" is "bad."

2 The man-eating Rhedosaurusis in The Beast from 20,000 Fathoms is a dinosaur, but one that no paleontologist would recognize. It's rumoured the mythical beast's name was inspired by the initials of the man who created it, special effects wiz Ray Harryhausen.

3 Mel Gibson wore clothes from the future in Braveheart. The movie is set in the late 13th century, but the kilts he wears didn't come into existence until 300 years later.

4 Instead of dying in the gladiatorial arena, as Gladiator would have you believe, Emperor Commodus was strangled in a bathtub a decade after his would-be movie assassin (played by Russell Crowe) died.

5 The Spartans in 300 run into battle against the Persian army protected only by leather thongs and rock-hard abs, when in fact they wore bronze armour.

In 300, the Spartans are depicted wearing leather thongs and not much else. In reality, they wore bronze armour. HANDOUT

6 As a knight returning from the Crusades in 1272, Nic Cage discovers a plague outbreak in Season of the Witch. Trouble is, the Black Death didn't strike until 76 years later.

7 In 10,000 BC woolly mammoths are used as labour to build the pyramids in Egypt. Wrong! Woolly mammoths weren't desert creatures and the pyramids weren't built until 2500 BC.

8 In Elizabeth: The Golden Age, the Queen is courted by Ivan the Terrible in 1585, who, in reality, was dead by then, felled by a stroke while playing chess.

9 California joins the Union at the end of Legend of Zorro in a ceremony that includes President Lincoln. Whoops! California became a state in 1850 and Lincoln wasn't president until 1861.

10 The title of the historical disaster film Krakatoa: East of Java is a geographical head-scratcher. Krakatoa was actually west of Java.

Big Brother is back

Julie Chen returns as host for the 14th season of Big Brother. HANDOUT

Top 10 Big Brother moments

To mark the return of the in-fighting and intrigue that makes Big Brother so hard not to watch, we count down some of the craziest moments from the first 13 seasons. The reality show returns to Global this Thursday at 9 p.m. ET/PT.

1 **Torture cage:** A challenge where house guests were locked in a cage for several hours attached to a button with restricted movement. (Season 6)

2 **All washed up:** Housemates had to collect liquid while running through aisles of foam. (Season 8)

3 **Bunny hop:** House guests had to stand on a platform for several hours holding a key during a freezing-cold water downpour. (Season 8)

4 **Name that pie:** A food challenge where house guests had to eat a pie and guess the unpleasant ingredients. (Season 8)

5 **Brownie house:** A food challenge where the contestants had to gain the most weight after eating a large house made of brownies. (Season 3)

6 **Shannon's revenge:** Shannon cleans the toilet with fellow contestant Hardy's toothbrush. Producers had to step in to stop the act. (Season 2)

7 **Renny sleepwalking:** Enough said. (Season 10)

8 **Twins revealed:** Adria and Natalie reveal that they are twins and have been switching places for weeks. (Season 5)

9 **Marcellus gives up veto:** He gives it up because he is certain the team will let him stay, but he winds up eliminated. (Season 3)

10 **Will's veto speech:** The speech when he says he hates everyone and wants to go home. (Season 7)
METRO

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Lily Allen. ALL PHOTOS FROM GETTY IMAGES

Lily Allen pregnant with second child?

After welcoming her first child with husband Sam Cooper in November 2011, Lily Allen is reportedly pregnant again, with a second child due later this year, according to the Sunday Mirror.

"She's pregnant but it's early. Lily doesn't want to talk about it yet," a source says.

"Lily has started telling her friends, and everybody in her close circle is so excited for her."

Last month, Allen announced she was back in the recording studio, but those plans may have to wait.

"It was a surprise, but Lily and Sam are thrilled," a source says of the new pregnancy.

"The pair of them have loved every minute of parenthood so far and wanted to expand their brood quickly. So it's great timing."

Scarlett Johansson

Johansson looking to make bank with Avengers sequel

Scarlett Johansson is going to make a mint for appearing in a planned sequel to The Avengers, reprising her role as Black Widow.

The actress has reportedly been offered $20 million for the film, according to the Sun.

To put that in perspective, though, co-star Robert Downey Jr. reportedly made $50 million for the first Avengers film, which has grossed $1.35 billion worldwide so far.

The Word

Katie Holmes goes to a Spice Girl for marriage counseling

THE WORD
Monica Weymouth
scene@metronews.ca

After she reached a divorce settlement with Tom Cruise on Monday, we were all set to go back to ignoring Katie Holmes for the next decade or so.

But then this little bit leaked: It seems she turned to none other than Victoria Beckham for marriage advice.

"Victoria's been a real tower of strength. Katie's seen how a normal marriage should function by being around Victoria and David Beckham, so she knew that something was wrong with her relationship with Tom," a source tells Now magazine.

"(Victoria) has been trying not to take sides, but she has let Katie know she'll be there for her whatever she chooses to do."

Katie, we get that you've had an exceedingly strange, disconnected five years, but marriage counseling from a Spice Girl?

Did you consult your Barbie legal panel, too?

Join us back in the real world, girl.

Quote

"(Victoria) has been trying not to take sides, but she has let Katie know she'll be there for her."

Source

Kristen Wiig

Kristen Wiig continues to shy away from spotlight

Kristen Wiig is enjoying her budding romance with Strokes drummer Fabrizio Moretti — who used to date Wiig pal Drew Barrymore — but that doesn't mean she's comfortable talking about it.

"I am shyer than most people think," Wiig tells Marie Claire. "I will say that I'm happier than I've been and I feel very lucky right now."

As for her departure from Saturday Night Live after seven seasons, Wiig says that was always the plan.

"I know a lot of people probably assume, 'Oh, she's leaving because she is going to be doing movies now and things like that,' which I will be," she says.

"But I just always knew it was going to be seven and that was it. I think maybe if I were 22, I could see myself staying a little bit, but it just felt like the right time."

Samantha Ronson

Slightly talented celebrity calls out talentless celebrity

Celebrity DJ Samantha Ronson isn't pleased with Paris Hilton's decision to become a DJ, according to TMZ.

"If you're just like, 'Oh, I want to figure out how I can make more money this week,' it insults the people that work really hard at it," Ronson tells the website about the news.

"It's like me calling myself a doctor from reading WebMD twice."

Twitter

@Colin_Hanks
My wife & I split our closet 70-40 cause we give our marriage 110%.

@batemanjason
I don't understand the low ratings at CNN. I have it on all day, every day. Greatest channel ever!

@mena13suvari
Like a ray of sunshine! Raw, vegan nachos.

@JuddApatow
New family rule-- no cursing, unless it is funny. Genuinely funny.

3 LIFE

Travel in brief

Montreal hotel tops customer review

A downtown Montreal hotel boasting an art collection featuring the likes of Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein and Marc Chagall has topped Expedia's annual list of the best Canadian hotels. LHotel, located on Rue Saint-Jacques near the Palais des congress, scored highest in 2011 in Expedia customer reviews, says the online travel agency. The hotel, which opened in 2001, occupies an 1870 building that first served as the head office of the Montreal City and District Savings Bank. Artworks are displayed in public areas and guest rooms of the property. Other top-rated Canadian hotels on the Expedia.ca list: Pan Pacific Whistler Village Centre, Whistler-Blackcomb, B.C.; Four Seasons Vancouver; Prince George Hotel, Halifax; and Pinnacle Hotel at the Pier, North Vancouver. The No. 1 hotel in the world, according to Expedia, was Marrol's Boutique Hotel in Bratislava, Slovakia. In the world ranking, LHotel placed 59th. The global list identifies the top hotels available on Expedia based on quality and value scores.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

On the web

Canadians not always aware of medical costs when travelling: BMO survey

Are you brave enough to descend into a Hell Hole?

Some of the Hell Holes near Napanee, Ont., have ladders so visitors can descend their depths. COURTESY: TOP 115 UNUSUAL THINGS TO SEE IN ONTARIO, BOSTON MILLS PRESS

Book excerpt.
Looking for a trip off the beaten path? Try thumbing through a collection of weird Ontario sites

A walk through the forest can sometimes be a dangerous thing, not necessarily from wolves or bears or even deer hunters, but from a careless step into a hole, especially when the hole leads to Hell.

The limestone ridge along the Salmon River north of Napanee, Ont. contains some of the area's most unusual natural features. There are caves, crevices and odd-looking rock columns. But the strangest of the oddities are what locals call the "Hell Holes."

To early settlers unfamiliar with geology, these holes in the forest floor seemed to have no end. While most are little larger than foxholes, a few are large enough to allow a human to squeeze through. Those who braved the descent found caverns that stretched in many directions.

Geologists refer to these phenomena as "karst" features. Karst topography occurs when soft limestone layers beneath a hard upper layer dissolve in water. This weathering causes caves and caverns, and the Hell Holes.

Similar to caves, the holes in the forest floor can open into large, pitch-black rooms, one of which was once large enough to hold 20 people (it later collapsed). While there are other locations in Ontario

with similar features, the ridge by the Salmon River, near the village of Roblindale, offers the greatest concentration of these cavities. Most are located in the privately run Hell Holes Park. Here, a self-guided trail, a little over three kilometers long, leads not only to the strange holes, but also over natural rock bridges, through eerie canyons lined with layered cliffs and columns, and then to the Devil's Horses' Stable hole, 7.5 metres deep and 2.5 by 3.5 metres square. A ladder leads to those depths.

Hell Holes Park is located on Centreville Road about 5.5 kilometres east of Highway 41, and 10.7 kilometres north of Highway 401 (Exit 579). Snacks, gifts and, of course, flashlights are available in the log cabin shop. It is said that one visitor even took his wedding vows in the Hell Holes. The duration of this marriage is not known.

USED WITH PERMISSION FROM TOP 115 UNUSUAL THINGS TO SEE IN ONTARIO, 3RD EDITION, REVISED & EXPANDED BY RON BROWN (BOSTON MILLS PRESS, 2012, $24.95 PAPERBACK).

Further reading

For those who wonder about sites across Canada, there's a guide for that too. Unforgettable Canada: 115 Destinations covers the most remarkable sites Canada offers from coast-to-coast. From the Gatineau Hot-Air Balloon Festival to Pacific Rim National Park Reserve, there's something that's guaranteed to pique your interest — whatever that may be.

Turn cherries upside down (literally) in simple, yet mouth-watering, cake

Ingredients

Filling
- 3 tbsp (45 ml) unsalted butter
- 1/2 cup (125 m) brown sugar
- 4 cups (1 l) California cherries, pitted

Cake
- 1/2 cup (125 m) unsalted butter
- 1 cup (250 m) granulated sugar
- 2 eggs
- 2 tsp (10 ml) vanilla
- 1 1/2 cups (375 ml) all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 tsp (7 ml) baking powder
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) each baking soda and salt
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) nutmeg
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) buttermilk
- Icing sugar (optional)

1. Preheat oven to 350 F (180 C). Grease a 9-inch (23-cm) baking pan. In small pan, melt butter, then stir in brown sugar, and cook until sugar dissolves and boils for 1 minute. Pour into pan and spread evenly. Arrange cherries in a single layer over sugar mixture.

2. Using an electric mixer, beat butter until creamy. Gradually add sugar and continue to beat until creamy. Add eggs one at a time, scraping down sides until blended. Add vanilla and beat. In a small bowl, stir flour with baking powder, baking soda, salt and nutmeg. Gradually add flour to butter mixture alternately with milk, starting and ending with flour.

3. Spread batter evenly over cherries. Bake in centre of preheated oven until a toothpick comes out clean, about 60 to 70 minutes. Check cake after 50 minutes, and cover loosely with foil if getting too dark. Run a knife around the edge of cake pan. After 15 minutes, carefully invert onto a cake plate. Serve warm or at room temperature. Just before serving, dust with icing sugar if you like. **NEWS CANADA/ ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS, PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA**

Cherry Upside Down Cake

This recipe serves 10. NEWS CANADA

Drink of the Week

Orange Dreamsicle Milkshake

For the frosty part of this milkshake, go with sorbet. Though high in sugar, sorbets generally have no fat. For creaminess, use cottage cheese. The curds blend smooth with a rich and creamy texture. Add in a bit of fat-free half-and-half to finish.

- 1 cup orange sorbet (mango also is good)
- 1/2 cup low-fat cottage cheese
- 1/2 tsp vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup fat-free half-and-half

In a blender, combine all ingredients. Blend until smooth. If you prefer a thinner consistency, drizzle in additional half-and-half while the blender is running until you get the desired consistency. Serve immediately. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Run with it. Athletic experience can give you a competitive edge

It's no secret: athletes are the demigods of college and university life.

While some athletes will be fortunate enough to turn pro, most will have to contend with a completely different playing field: the professional workplace.

What works in an athlete's favour is the constant pressure to perform under demanding conditions and the need to make quick and accurate decisions. Moreover, competitors in team sports are presumed to have above-average interpersonal and communication skills.

"Achievement in athletics requires discipline, focus, sustained effort, and working towards specific goals. These character traits are ingredients for success in virtually any field, but they work especially well in finance," says former Merrill Lynch VP Mark Kolakowski.

Game highlights

- **Don't just list your achievements.** Instead, demonstrate with as much specificity as possible exactly how your athletic background has groomed you to excel in the job being offered, and how you're a better candidate than the average applicant because of your experience.

- Merrill Lynch VP Mark Kolakowski

A hockey player both during his time at Harvard University and while pursuing his MBA at Wharton, Kolakowski says the reason the finance industry loves hiring former athletes is pretty simple: they work hard and they play to win.

While common convention assumes that gender stereotypes still put women at a disadvantage over men in the recruitment process, Kolakowski says female athletes have an advantage over both other women and men without similar backgrounds.

"A female athlete who markets herself effectively should come across as a more impressive job candidate than non-athletic men, even for traditionally male-dominated positions in traditionally male-dominated organizations," he adds. He continues that it helps if the recruiter is a sports fan or a former athlete as well, since the candidate will have the opportunity to establish personal affinities during the interview which another candidate without an athletic background might have difficulty developing. **JELEEN YU IS A WRITER AND EDITOR FOR THE NEWSLETTER OF A NON-PROFIT MICROFINANCE ORGANIZATION IN THE PHILIPPINES CALLED KFI (KAALALAY FOUNDATION, INC.).**

Keep your eyes on the prize. ISTOCK

Twitter

@TalentEgg
Fill in the blank: The secret to career success is _____

@humanehr
The secret to career success is understanding that relationships are your only currency.

@eattough_m
Getting into a constructive routine and staying healthy.

@GregRyderVAN
How you spend your time on a daily basis.

@KiranNagra
Finding Your Passion + Sticking to Your Core Values

@_Shereen
The secret to career success is not doing it just for the money.

@aldricht
the secret to career success is keeping an open mind, but standing your ground.

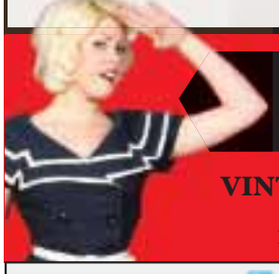
WANTED
Lifelong Soulmate

Do you like:
- Getting out and being active?
- Walks in the park?
- Snuggling with someone handsome?

If so, come and meet me at
The Saskatoon SPCA.

Ask for Meethos.

SPCA SASKATOON



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4

SPORTS

Stroman's Blue Jays journey underway in Vancouver

MLB. Highly-touted pitching prospect 'ready to go' in single-A

Marcus Stroman hopped on a bus Tuesday morning as he began the ride to what he hopes will be a career in the big leagues.

The Toronto Blue Jays pitching prospect, chosen in the first round of this year's Major League Baseball draft, is getting ready to commence his career with the Vancouver Canadians of the single-A Northwest League amidst high hopes from the parent club.

He is expected to take the mound Wednesday against the Boise Hawks.

"I feel like I'm ready to go," said the 21-year-old. "There'll definitely be some butterflies in my stomach when I'm out there for my professional debut, but I'm excited, man. I can't wait to get out there and compete. I'm ready to roll."

The Blue Jays took Stroman with the 22nd pick overall. Assistant general manager Andrew Tinnish, formerly the team's scouting director, and Toronto manager John Farrell have said Stroman could rise to the majors by September. Usually, clubs avoid such predictions about players starting out in single-A ball.

"I've started to develop a pretty close relationship with some of the guys here, and I'm just enjoying them," said Stroman. "The guys are awesome on this team. So I'm not worried about moving up or anything."

The right-hander from Long Island, N.Y., joined the Jays organization after three standout seasons at Duke University, where he struck out 136 batters in 98 innings last season. He also starred for USA Baseball's Collegiate National Team in the summer of 2011 as a closer.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"I'm just trying to focus on what I can do for the Vancouver Canadians."

Toronto Blue Jays pitching prospect Marcus Stroman on focusing on his single-A career and not a quick jump to the major leagues

Pitching woes in Toronto

The Blue Jays pitching staff continues to be decimated by injuries.

- The club announced Monday night that left-handed reliever Luis Perez will miss the rest of the season with a torn ligament in his throwing elbow.
- The Jays have had seven pitchers on the disabled list this season at one time or another.

Cycling

Former Armstrong staffers given lifetime bans

With Lance Armstrong still digging in for a legal fight, the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency on Tuesday issued lifetime sports bans to three former staff members and consultants on Armstrong's winning Tour de France teams for doping violations. Luis Garcia del Moral was a team doctor; Michele Ferrari a consulting doctor; and Jose (Pepe) Marti a team trainer for Armstrong's U.S. Postal Service and Discovery Channel squads. All had been accused by USADA of participating in a vast doping conspiracy on those teams during part or all of Armstrong's seven Tour de France victories from 1999-2005. Armstrong also has been charged and has declared his innocence.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB players to discuss expanded HGH testing for next season

The American League's Justin Verlander of the Detroit Tigers pitches to the National League's Carlos Gonzalez of the Colorado Rockies during the first inning of baseball's all-star game on Tuesday night in Kansas City. Union head Michael Weiner, speaking to the Baseball Writers' Association of America, said Tuesday afternoon that players will be discussing whether to expand testing for human growth hormone to the regular season in 2013. Each player was given a blood test for HGH during spring training as part of the labour contract that was agreed to in November, which allows blood testing during the off-season and spring training, and if there is reasonable cause. For more coverage of the all-star game, go to metronews.ca/sports. DILIP VISHWANAT/GETTY IMAGES

Mobile sports

Diego Maradona was popular with fans and helped put United Arab Emirates soccer on the map, but after his team finished eighth in a 12-team league, he was fired on Tuesday after one season as coach of Dubai club Al Wasl. Scan the code for the story.

Tour de France. Sources say French rider among three arrested in doping probe

The longtime problem of doping hit the Tour de France head-on Tuesday when a French rider was arrested at his team hotel and suspended by his team.

Police made their move on the Tour's first rest day in arresting Cofidis cyclist Remy Di Gregorio, with judicial officials saying two other people suspected of supplying the Frenchman with banned substances were also arrested — one along with the rider in Bourg-en-Bresse, and another in Marseille.

Remy Di Gregorio GETTY IMAGES

The officials requested anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly as the investigation is ongoing.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CFL

Calvillo returns to practice

Montreal Alouettes quarterback Anthony Calvillo returned to practice Tuesday, a day after skipping a session because of a bruised left shoulder.

The 39-year-old pivot was hurt in Montreal's 41-30 win over the Winnipeg Blue Bombers on Friday.

"I'm feeling good and I'm looking to play on Thursday against Calgary," Calvillo said.

The Als will be looking for revenge against the Stamps after Calgary demolished Montreal 38-10 in Week 1. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA. Lewis follows fellow ring-chaser Allen to Miami

Rashard Lewis has decided to join the Miami Heat, becoming yet another shooting option for the reigning NBA champions.

Agent Tony Dutt said the free agent forward and the Heat agreed to terms on Tuesday, and Lewis is expected to sign his contract Wednesday. Lewis' decision comes just four days after Ray Allen agreed to accept an offer from Miami.

Allen and Lewis were Seattle teammates from 2003 through 2007 and both figure to fit perfectly into Miami's plan to surround LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh with even more long-range shooters.

By the numbers

$1.3M

Lewis will make the veteran minimum for Miami for this coming season, worth about $1.3 million. He will pick up another $13.7 million from the final year of his most recent contract — a $118 million, six-year pact — that was bought out earlier this off-season by New Orleans.

Allen's 2,718 made three-pointers are the most in NBA history, and Lewis ranks fifth among active players with 1,690 makes from beyond the arc. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A rare, but sturdy used car find

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Second Gear.
2007 to 2009
Chrysler Aspen

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
drive@metronews.ca

The Chrysler Aspen, which was an upscale Dodge Durango twin, had a short-lived life with questionable success. Targeting buyers considering the Cadillac Escalade and Lincoln Navigator, this American luxury SUV was only available from 2007 to 2009 before being given the axe.

Aspen got seating for up to eight and a list of luxury goodies — including heated leather, a sunroof, premium audio, wood trim, automatic climate control, memory seating and more.

Engine

Chrysler's award-winning 5.7-litre HEMI V8 supplied all Aspen models with 335 horsepower. An automatic transmission and four-wheel drive was standard.

Common Issues

A check-engine light — possibly accompanied by reduced power output, a sporadic idle or lumpy acceleration — could be evidence of a bad engine control sensor.

A "scan" of the Aspen's computer system by a dealer-certified mechanic can help ensure no computer-related problems are hiding. Check for smooth shifting, a steady idle, and even, hesitation-free acceleration at both moderate and full throttle.

A problem with the fuel-filler system may cause gas to spew out while filling up. Be sure to ask the seller if they've experienced this issue and whether they've had it remedied by the technical service bulletin issued by Chrysler.

Check for proper operation from all power windows and the sunroof. Proper operation of the climate control system should also be confirmed, and shoppers are also advised to check for rust on the bottom edges of the doors.

Verdict

The Chrysler Aspen appears relatively reliable and free of glaring mechanical problems. Expect a pleasant ownership experience and plenty of style and capability from a well-maintained used model.

5 DRIVE

What Owners Like

Power output, size and space, comfort and capability are all highly rated in the Aspen owner community. Many owners also report confident towing abilities and passing, thanks to the HEMI powerplant.

What Owners Dislike

Common Aspen complaints include gas mileage, a high step-in height, 'numb' steering and a dated-looking navigation system.

On the Web

Scan code for more car reviews and news

Turn up the air, and the dilemma

Autopilot

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
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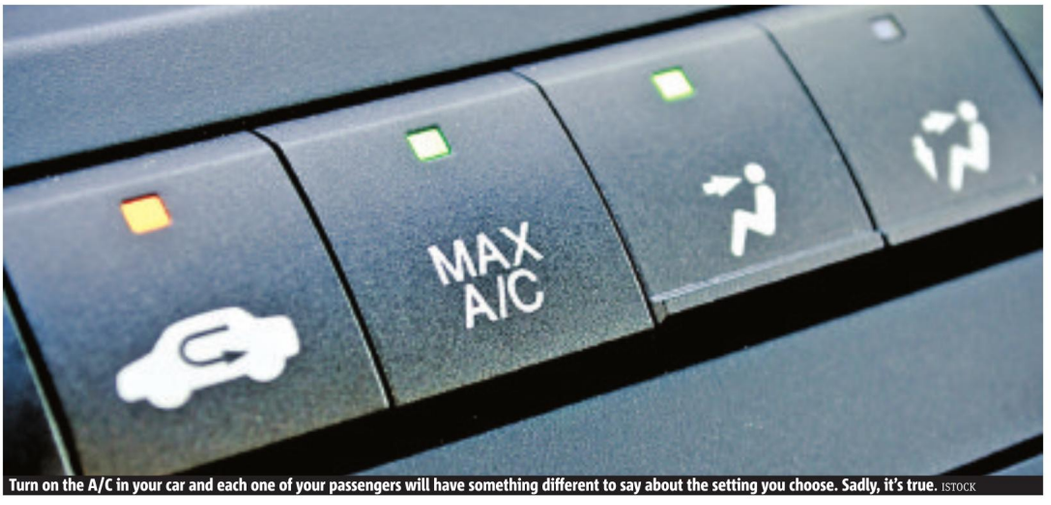

Turn on the A/C in your car and each one of your passengers will have something different to say about the setting you choose. Sadly, it's true. ISTOCK

I have a love-hate thing with vehicular air conditioning. Judging by how often I crank up the air, it's obvious the love side is winning.

But that only means I don't feel good about it, because there are a lot of things I don't like about air conditioning in a car. Here's the shortlist ...

If you have an automatic system that always tries to maintain a pre-set temperature, then you're always in for a treat when you jump in a hot car. The system automatically goes into full freezer mode. A sudden cold blast like that is such a shock to your system. It's particularly hard on my nipples.

Canada's Pollution Probe estimates that driving in the city with the air conditioning on full blast increases fuel consumption by 10 to 25 per cent.

My tendency to always crank it up at the mere hint of discomfort once again reminds me of my incredibly low pain threshold and wavering eco-logical tendencies.

Like I need reminding.

Not one passenger is happy with whatever A/C setting the driver selects.

"Oh you got air conditioning, great. "Could you turn it up a bit?" "Maybe a bit more." "Maybe down a bit now." "How about less on my feet and more on my face?"

After that, they open the window, throwing the carefully constructed eco-system into chaos.

Also, air conditioning is but one more thing that "seals" us into our individual boxes, and all that entails for motoring culture and etiquette. Dogs are my heroes in this regard; they're never happier as when they hang out an open window and face and embrace the world at 60 km/h.

But all this is not to say I want to go back to an un-air-conditioned existence. I like driving with an open window as much as the next guy, but there is a point where pleasure bleeds into pain. Even if open windows keep you cool, the amount of hot air moving around means you can't hear each other or the stereo, and that all the moisture in your body shrivels up in minutes, like the world is a hair dryer and you're Justin Bieber's hair.

By the way, Pollution Probe notes that the increased drag you create by open windows is still better for fuel efficiency than running your A/C — only at illegal high speeds is the situation reversed.

As a general guide, until the noise from the wind rushing past the open windows becomes too loud to speak over, you are saving more fuel by keeping the windows down and the A/C off. Vehicle air conditioning systems, however, are also getting progressively better at using less energy. Hybrids are also pioneering the use of "electrically" driven air conditioning compressors — their big batteries and superior charging abilities give them this opportunity. (Typically, A/C compressors are driven off the engine's accessory drive belt, which makes engines work harder and consequently, thirstier.)

You also gotta love those luxury cars equipped with heated and cooled seats. If it's a scorching day, you owe it to yourself to try one of these seats, and be relieved by having cool air seep into your core area, which includes your groin. It's an experience everyone should have on their bucket list.

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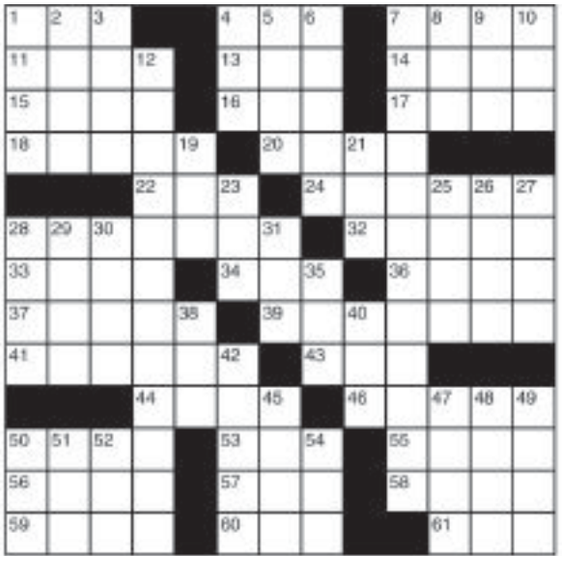
Across
1 Robber's pursuer
4 60 sec.
7 Teensy insect
11 One of Donald's nephews
13 Expert
14 Deteriorates
15 Poet Pound
16 Compete in a regatta
17 Make art with acid
18 Injury
20 Night light?
22 Youngster
24 Find
28 Plotted
32 Flower whose name means "flame"
33 A Great Lake
34 Annoy
36 Rid of rind
37 Does Shylock's work
39 Repudiates a connection
41 Man's hat
43 "The Matrix" role
44 Pig's comment
46 Southwestern brick
50 Desertlike
53 Wander about
55 Tale teller
56 Soap brand
57 Storm center
58 B.P.O.E.
59 Finished
60 Depressed
61 Nevertheless

Down
1 Masticate
2 Anise liqueur
3 South American country
4 Scratch
5 PC picture
6 Staircase post
7 Dowager's pet, traditionally
8 Auction parcel
9 List-ending abbr.
10 Fire aftermath
12 Colonial melody
19 Needing light
21 "Alley —"
23 Society newcomer
25 "There oughta be —!"
26 Rent
27 Bygone partners
28 Ego
29 Saskatchewan tribe
30 Female red deer
31 Flop
35 Card-table pronouncement
38 — Lanka
40 Wet expanse
42 Christmas-tree topper, often
45 Deck in a prizefight
47 Unctuous
48 Make quiche
49 Formerly, formerly
50 Do sums
51 Brazilian city
52 Author Fleing
54 Morning moisture



	4		8		3		2	
		6				9		
	9		5		1		4	
	7	1				8	6	
9								3
	3	5				2	9	
	1		2		8		7	
		2				1		
	6		4		7		8	

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku

8	5	7	2	4	1	9	3	6
3	1	9	6	5	7	2	4	8
6	4	2	3	9	8	1	5	7
5	3	8	4	6	9	7	1	2
9	7	4	5	1	2	8	6	3
1	2	6	8	7	3	4	9	5
2	6	1	7	3	4	5	8	9
4	8	3	9	2	5	6	7	1
7	9	5	1	8	6	3	2	4

Yesterday's Crossword

Cryptoquip

How to play
This is a substitution cipher where one letter stands for another. Eg: If X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle.

BD Y CSH BV OPZVVZO BF Y DZKBFZ LAVUSTZ, TBCGU HAS LYKK GBV GYBPVUHKZ Y "LYU TYF OA"?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: YOU'RE WONDERING WHAT HIS FAVORITE ASIAN FOOD IS? I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU THAI AND THAI AGAIN!

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals I

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20. What worked for you in the past won't necessarily work for you in the future, so be ready to move with the times. Always be flexible.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. Change may not come easily to those born under the sign of the bull but change you must — and soon. Let the planets guide you today and let the world see that you've got an adventurous side too.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20. You already know what is and is not possible – you don't need anyone telling you – and if you apply that knowledge, you will enjoy success.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22. Others may make light of your efforts but the planets indicate you are on the verge of a major success that will make critics green with envy.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. Planets warn if you try to get out of what you are expected to do today, you'll have to do twice as much tomorrow.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. You have some tough tasks ahead of you and no doubt you are worried that you might fail. Don't be. If you approach what you have to do in the right spirit, you will win through sooner or later – probably sooner.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. Saturn in your sign warns you must not take shortcuts. A job that is worth doing is a job that is worth doing well — and a job that is done well is likely to be well rewarded.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. You will have to be firm with a friend or work colleague today. If you let them off the hook now, they'll only let you down again later. Next time, the consequences will be dire.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. Try not to be too eager when negotiating with people who have something you want. If they get the impression that you are desperate, you will end up paying double.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. With Saturn, your ruler, moving through the career area of your chart, you must be serious about your ambitions.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. You have been thinking about making some big changes for quite some time but you are still in the same place. It's time to get serious.

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. Everyone seems to be on your case at the moment and you are wondering what you have done to deserve such negativity. Don't worry, they will get over it. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption Contest

"Oh no, I think my pants are coming off!"
Farhan
LUIS ROMERO/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Win!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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